THOUGHTS FROM THE TEACHINGS OF

YOGA

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THOUGHTS FROM THE

TEACHING OF AGNI YOGA

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Welcome

To those who love

Beauty, Wisdom and Labor

A miracle occurs without warning, but naught happens by ACCIDENT. The Call, 233

We say that it is better to be mistaken in ACTION than to remain inactive. Agni Yoga, 429

Often ADVICE does not achieve its purpose for the reason that it is given as if for oneself. Community, 131

One is not saved by words but by their APPLICATION. Fiery World II, 199

ATTAIN the port. For each one a ship is provided. The Call, 292

BEAUTY is Our ray of understanding. Illumination, p. 60

Some dwell in cellars, some in attics.
Others are content with a room in another's dwelling.
But some possess an entire house.
I wish to give a house to those who dwell with Us.
It is not bad to possess an entire dwelling.
Glorious is it to admire the sunrise from the terraced garden.
And cheaply do We sell the house–
A word from the heart and an action of beauty. The Call, 294

How, then, can the heart realize all the beauty of existence if it has not penetrated into all the joys and sorrows of life?
Fiery World III, 208

I said Beauty in combat and victory.
I said Beauty, and failure was covered by Beauty.
Mountains blossomed with Beauty.
And you must open the way for the flowers of Beauty.
Understand, there are no possessions – nor decisions, nor pride, nor repentance.
There is one thing alone – Beauty.
And to thee I entrust it.
Guard, expound and affirm this Beauty.
Therein lies thy way.
With Beauty shall I meet those who will attain Me.
And they are already on their way.
The Call, 333

Verily, it is only necessary to avoid horror and decomposition, because there is no situation such that with the strength of foundation it cannot change to the very BEST OUTCOME. It is impossible to create in complete stagnation and decline, but each striving movement is already suffused with a decisive consonance. Heart, 317

Recognize THE CALL even in the fall of the rose petal. Life is full of calls. The Call, 134

Truly, creative patience and CHEERFULNESS are the two wings of the worker.
Community, 163

The Spirit of CHRIST breathes across the desert of life. Like a spring It wears Its way through the solid rocks. In the milky firmament It radiates in myriads of lights, and rises upward in the stems of flowers. The Call, 72

In the name of Christ great crimes have been committed. Therefore Christ clothes Himself in other garments. . . . Think, how to cleanse the Image of Christ. Gathering the crumbs of the people's concept of the Saviour and replacing the Chiton by overalls, one can find illumination. Illumination, 75

Hours of happiness. Thus We term that step of the development of CONSCIOUSNESS when, without departing from life, Our people receive the opportunity to join Us in Our place.
Agni Yoga, 338

Man raises himself with difficulty, as if climbing toward a mountain top. That which he observes hanging above his consciousness oppresses him. Many concepts appear to be difficult, and he begins to avoid them. But there may be another means of cognition – man heroically uplifts his consciousness and then observes manifestations from above. Thus, the most complex manifestation will appear to be below his consciousness and will be easily apprehended.
Brotherhood, 595

. . . of course the consciousness covered with age-old dust cannot at once grasp the reality. Agni Yoga, 351

COURAGE is tested by unexpected obstacles. Brotherhood, 552

We summon those CO-WORKERS who know the difficulties. We call to those who will not turn back. Community, 156

One can forgive much where there is unswerving DEVOTION. Fiery World I, 605

By night cover yourself with Our Name, by day gird yourself in the armor of devotion. Agni Yoga, 102

Absorb forever – the so-called gift of DISCRIMINATION is not a gift, but the result of labor and experiment. The stupid word intuition expresses nothing but limitation. Not through intuition but by many accumulations can one acquire discrimination. . . . Be assured that he who has no discrimination has passed through a coarse existence and made no effort to free himself of it. Thus, he has deprived himself of the benefit of cognizing through the heart. Heart, 579

The being who is filled with DOUBT is not fit for even a primitive form of cooperation. Brotherhood, 13

From the first years of childhood the best prophylaxis against doubt should be employed. A healthy, rational, inquiring mind does not engender doubt, but any ignorance can be the source of the most ugly doubts. Doubt is primarily ugliness, and finally, it leads to betrayal. The epidemic of betrayal is already a planetary calamity. Aum, 506

Joy is not born of self-pity, nor courage from doubt. Aum, 446

Let us affirm ENTHUSIASM OF THE SPIRIT. To be filled with the spirit means to place oneself in direct communion with Hierarchy. Fiery World II, 236

FAITH is the presentiment of knowledge. Hierarchy, 426

FEARLESSNESS is Our leader. Illumination, 60

In Cosmos FIRE is affirmed as the manifestation of life. . . . The Cosmic Breath is the Fire of Space. All cosmic manifestations are permeated with Fire and human thought is Fire. Thought gives form; thought gives direction; thought gives life; thought imparts creativeness; thought imparts the attraction of a drawing magnet. . . . Cosmic thought is comprised in the fiery communion. Infinity I, 372

Never was a Teaching elevated by its FRIENDS. Agni Yoga, 270

I say, "Strive into THE FUTURE." I say, "Direct yourself to Me." I say, "Gather everything that will propel you above the crossing of the currents. . . . The past can temporarily deprive one of the accumulations of the present. Thus, our power multiplies when we transport our consciousness into the future. Heart, 151

In substance, the heart is an organ of higher action and offering. Hence each offering is of the nature of the heart. . . . True GIVING is of the spirit. Let each heart pour out streams of spiritual gifts. Heart, 386

What I will say now is very important. The canon, "BY THY GOD," is the higher, and this canon is the basis of the New World. Formerly one said: "And my spirit rejoiceth in God, my Saviour." Now you will say: "And my spirit rejoiceth in God, thy Saviour."

Solemnly do I say that therein is salvation. "Long live thy God!" So you will say to everyone; and, exchanging Gods, you will walk to the One. Illumination, p. 124

Let us not forget that there is nothing on Earth higher than the given Plan for the COMMON GOOD. Community, 81

As through a magnifying glass behold the GOOD, and belittle tenfold the signs of evil, lest thou remain as before. The Call, 32

Understanding the Universal Good, one must be more benevolent. The heart must become accustomed to the efficacy of good. As experienced warriors, should one evoke the power of good. No power of evil can conquer good. Heart, 553

I have no need of thanks, but GRATITUDE will be your nurture, because supreme above flames of other offerings is the fire of gratitude. Agni Yoga, 83

The world has lost its HAPPINESS, because happiness is in the spirit. Agni Yoga, 14

The knowledge of vitamins is a sign of the coming age. But to the physical substance of vitamins one must add the conscious psychic energy. Then, numerous problems of physical and spiritual HEALING will be solved.
Fiery World I, 205

Learn to approach Our Heights pure of HEART. The Call, 43

To behold with the eyes of the heart; to listen with the ears of the heart to the roar of the world; to peer into the future with the comprehension of the heart; to remember the cumulations of the past through the heart; thus must one impetuously advance upon the path of ascent. Heart, 1

The more fiery the heart, the greater the joys and sufferings. Fiery World III, 208

After our daily labors, let us gather to discourse about the heart. It will lead us beyond the domains of Earth toward the Subtle World, in order to bring us closer to the sphere of Fire. Heart, Preface

Many will not understand how one can strengthen the heart by thought, because for them the heart is but a physical organ. But whoever has felt Our currents will understand the meaning of this bond. The world is living through such tension that it is timely to remind about the necessity of readiness for such communions. . . . Upon all steps of Hierarchy there is the same transmission and communion. And how majestic is this Ladder of Immeasurable HELP. Fiery World II, 94

The Guardian Hand rests upon the spirit, and like a pilot steers it over waves and seasons and elements. The Call, 281

The Teacher is near thee at every moment of thy creative labor. The Call, 96

Help wherever the hand can reach, wherever the thought can fly. Thus shall we rap upon the future. Thus let us remember that each hour taken from oneself will be recorded for the future. Hierarchy, 434

If you feel an unbearable anguish of the heart, transfer it mentally to the Lord. Thus you may join your heart with the Inexhaustible Source—HIERARCHY. Such action may be particularly needed when the tension of the entire planet is great. One must be prepared for the most diversified influences, both cosmic and human. The adherence of the heart to Hierarchy is a continuous action, but at present We are pointing out particular instances when it becomes necessary to strengthen the heart with the manifestation of Hierarchy with especial clarity of consciousness. Fiery World II, 94

Reverence of Hierarchy will affirm the closeness of the Higher World. In cooperation with Hierarchy do you find firm bridges to that shore. Every belief reveals the Guardian Angels, Guides, and Comforters; under the various names lies the same concept of Hierarchy. Verily, let each one understand in his own way, but let each heart strive upward. In this alone is the path to perfection. Aum, 60

How to transmute the bitter into the most sweet? Naught save Hierarchy will transform life into its higher consciousness. It is impossible to imagine a bridge into the Infinite because a bridge is in need of abutments. But Hierarchy, as the abutments of the bridge, brings one to the shore of Light. And imagine the entire effulgence that the eyes behold! And understand the Song of Light. Let us labor for the Light of Hierarchy! Hierarchy, Preface.

The Star of Allahabad pointed out the way. . . . During the night march the guide lost his way. After some seeking, I found Christ seated upon a sand mound looking at the sands flooded by moonlight. I said to Him, "We have lost the way. We must await the indication of the stars." "Rossul M., what is a way to Us, when the whole world is awaiting Us?" Then, taking His bamboo staff, He traced a square around the impression of His foot, saying, "Verily, I say, BY HUMAN FEET." And, making the impression of His palm, He surrounded it also with a square. "Verily, BY HUMAN HANDS." Illumination, p.76

Thou must apply thy efforts. By thy hands must thou build new force. I shall help, I shall help, but add thy strength. The Call, 230

At times it is useful to sit calmly, directing one's spirit to INFINITY. It is like a shower from the far-off worlds. Fiery World I, 344

Fear before Infinity is also a hindrance. Surely, not many dare to reflect about such a remote giant as Antares, which, in the ocean of the Milky Way, presupposes beyond itself infinite Space. Aum, 137

We summon those who know that JOY is a special wisdom. Community, 156

. . . wherefore the power and wherefore the sacrifice if there be no joy? The Call, 357

Smile–I grant thee the joy of spreading the Teaching of Christ, the joy of conceiving the Greatness of the Universe, the joy of manifested labor, the joy of resignation.
The Call, 153

People have only two real joys–thinking and the ecstasy over beauty. The path to the Fiery World has been affirmed by these two manifestations. Only through them can man advance to the lofty spheres. Every higher communion will contain these two fundamentals.
Brotherhood, 85

The path to Brotherhood is in thinking and in LABOR. Brotherhood, 85

Into the New Country My first message. Thou who gavest the Ashram, thou who gavest two lives, Proclaim. Builders and warriors, strengthen the steps. Reader, if thou hast not grasped–read again, after a while. The predestined is not accidental, and the leaves fall off in due time. Yet the winter is but the messenger of spring. All is revealed; all is attainable. I shall cover you with a shield–labor. I have spoken.
The Call, Preface

One should be very solicitous about THE LAST HOURS of sojourn on Earth. Often the final striving can predetermine the succeeding life, also the stratum in which the spirit will dwell. Indeed, it is inadmissible to recall the spirit into the earthly spheres when it already has broken away. Fiery World III, 97

They will ask thee how to traverse LIFE. Answer: Like crossing an abyss upon a taut string—beautifully, carefully and fleetly. The Call, p.159

Know how to guard the thread with the Teacher and to fill the heart with THE LORD. One should not forget what is essential to an unswerving ascent. Neither words nor circumstances, nor character, nor diverse reasons can erect barriers between the disciple and the Teacher. The manifestation of the Teacher is the building of the shortest path. To reject the Lord is to betray oneself. Hierarchy, 158

How many preparations and how much thought and effort—to say to Thee my one word, "I love Thee, My Lord." The Call, 342

There is no love greater than LOVE. The Call, 77

Let us accept love as the impetus for the expansion of consciousness. Heart, 243

Not in a placid existence is the heart saturated with fiery love. Fiery World III, 208

The heart filled to the brim with love will be active, valiant, and will expand to its capacity. Such a heart can pray without words and bathe in bliss. How greatly in need is humanity of the realization of the fire of love! Hierarchy, 280

Love each other—beware of disunion.
The Call, 10

Contemplate memory and consciousness. Since MEMORY is for the past, consciousness is for the future. Therefore We replace memory by consciousness. By means of memory I cannot penetrate within the boundaries of the sun, but consciousness opens the gates. For Us, the museum and library replace the memory; therefore, disciples should not grieve over the loss of the old memory. It is simply that a small thing is replaced by a great one. Consciousness is akin to the spirit understanding; it grows until one's whole being is engulfed as in a flame. During this process the chips of memory, like dross, impede the burning. To know does not mean to remember. He who attains hastens on without looking back. Humanity must remember the transmutation of consciousness.
Illumination, p. 43

Not without reason is it said that METAPHYSICS does not exist, only physics.
Fiery World I, 659

It has been said that each man carries his particular MISSION. Actually, each one who has taken on an earthly body is already a messenger. Is it not wondrous?
Brotherhood, 568

Can one think that the rags of antiquated thought may be utilized for the NEW WORLD?
Agni Yoga, 82

The evolution of the world is built on revolutions or explosions of matter. Each revolution has a progressive movement upward. Each explosion, as a constructive agent, acts spirally. Therefore, it is in the nature of each revolution to be subject to the law of the spiral. . . Therefore, construction in revolution is a most dangerous moment. A great number of imperfect elements will press the structure downward into strata of outworn and poisoned substance. Only reckless courage can turn the structure upward into strata untried and beautiful in the maintenance of new elements. Therefore, I speak and shall say again that outworn forms must be avoided in the structure. Sinking back into the old receptacles is inadmissible. The understanding of the New World in all its austerity is needed. Community, 66.

One should grow to love all the OBSTACLES, for the stones on the path are but the steps of ascent. Long ago was it said that one does not ascend by a smooth stone. Brotherhood, 25

Blessed be the obstacles, through them we grow! Illumination, p. 239

Beware of OBTRUSION . . . be careful that you yourselves do not become obtrusive. It is impossible to calculate the harm of obtrusion, and one cannot view without contempt the selling of the Teaching in the bazaar at a discount. Learn to understand that the Teaching, conscious of its knowledge, will not expose itself in the bazaar. Only an exceptional

ignorance in the followers can place the Teaching in a cringing position of falsehood and ignominy. One may pity those who, scantily informed, have taken on this purposeless labor. . . . He who knocks takes the responsibility upon himself, but the forcibly enticed one will be as a millstone on the neck of the bell-ringer. Community, 129

If everyone rushes to the fire from the wellspring without any ORDER, the wellspring will be trampled without benefit. Community, 98

Thou must know that the chosen path leads to the Source of Wisdom. By symbols wilt thou know to time the steps of the ascension. And the passing events will be a book of life. I reveal to thee all the steps, and THE PATH leads straight onward. The Call, 210

Walk by the path of love. Walk by the path of labor. Walk by the path of the shield of faith! . . . Walk by the way of the heart and the Chalice will affirm the path! Hierarchy, 24.

Usually people are obscured in the snares of the past. Indeed, it completely prevents one's being turned wholly toward the future. And what small earthly stones of the past prevent one's proceeding rapidly on the path! But one should become accustomed to the hurried path, no other exists. A great number of unfortunates and sufferers are counting the moments, waiting for help. Indeed, ought we not hasten? Fiery World II, 150

PATIENCE is a conscious tensity and an opposition to darkness. . . . patience is the source of Benevolence. Nothing so tests the heart as conscious patience. Heart, 478-9

The spiritual life is always affected when one's POSSESSIONS are too many. The Call, 81

Numerous POSSIBILITIES, already close, fail because of human complaints induced by self-pity. When people begin to weigh how much they have sacrificed, and how little they have received from the Teacher, the meaning of the Teaching is lost. Heart, 72

I affirm, and you should understand, that what seems impossible today may be feasible tomorrow. Agni Yoga, 121

And where is the garment in which to ascend the steps of the Temple? Where is the worthy vestment to cover the nakedness and shadow of our bodies?

Throughout the Universe pulsates the RAIMENT of Life's Beginning. Throughout the Universe is found the worthy Garment. . . . In this garment shalt thou ascend the steps. This garment will cover thy body.

They are rending the Raiment of the Lord. They scoff at its tatters. But the daughter of the world and the Mother of the Universe will join the pieces of this Raiment. The Call, 357

REASON is the guide of misunderstanding. Rational thinking is being condemned, but irrational actions have also been condemned. This means that there is some force that should supplement the action of the reason. The heart must be the supreme judge. Being the conscience of peoples, it will produce equilibrium. Reason is not equilibrium. Brotherhood, 385

Who, then, should be treated especially austerely? Definitely oneself. How should one carry the Teaching? Within oneself alone. How to pass between hypocrisy and insolence? Not by rows of witnesses but only in self-judgment. . . One must know to carry the Teaching as the last fire, the last food, the last water. One must manifest love and sparingness as toward the last possibility and the last drop of water. By acting within oneself one can show the measure of devotion. One must know how to create a world of personal RESPONSIBILITY for one's own consciousness; then censure will be turned into true judgment. Community, 130

To REVERENCE the Lord means to comprehend the Guiding Image. To reverence the Lord means to devote oneself to the Lord. To reverence the Lord means to turn one's gaze to the Highest. To reverence the Lord means to deliver one's heart to the Lord. To reverence the Lord means to serve the Hierarchy of Good. To reverence the Lord means to manifest understanding of the Service of Light in space. Fiery World III, 322

RHYTHM is the progenitor of cooperation. . . People knew long ago that rhythm kindled collective fires. Fiery World II, 17

I say that only the key of the heart and the achievement of SELF-SACRIFICE make life out of a vibration. Infinity II, 158

Dim is the light of the world. And each desire to serve is especially precious to Us. But know one thing, that good mood and activity help Us best. Not for revelations, but for SERVICE did I summon thee. The Call, 255

Verily THE SILVER THREAD which links the Teacher with the disciple is the great magnet of the heart. Heart, 1

SIMPLICITY is Our key to the secret doors of happiness. Illumination, p.60

Accept the stern lessons with a SMILE. The Call, 121

Little fires flickering only for an instant contain all the qualities of flame, but darkness engulfs them as swiftly as a brazier does a snowflake. One cannot trust an isolated moment of containment; only STEADFASTNESS, tempered by toil and by obstacles, results in a trustworthy containment. . . The true co-worker does not think about the intended application of the qualities of labor. The music of the spheres is blended with the song of progress of

labor. Ponder how like a fiery ladder is steadfastness.

Someone decides: "I will cross upon the fiery ladder." Do so, to each one the path is open. But remember, if fear comes the steps melt into liquid flame. Whither will you go, not having acquired the quality of labor? When We say it is better to sleep on cedar roots, the follower can carry out easily the advice. It is easy to sleep, and especially when so advised. But when one is told to take up constant watch, then the steps become burning hot. One thing must be repeated: not easy is the ladder.
Community, 153-4

Truth is with thee—be ready to receive it. As the heavens are depthless, so great is thy STRENGTH. The Call, 5

Nothing will hinder my race to the TEACHER.
Illumination, p. 161

It is bad when the meaning of the Teacher is not realized. But it is still worse when, after realization, one imposes upon the Teacher that which one must perform oneself.
Agni Yoga, 362

Be not dismayed at the Teacher's words. Pupils should rejoice at every message. Contemplate the spiritual guidance of One Teacher.
The Call, 76

Reverence of the Teacher is a remedy for all ailments. When very ill, turn to the Lord.
Fiery World II, 161

Consider how to receive THE TEACHING in your life more easily. The busiest people can each devote an hour to the approach to the Teaching. We cannot believe that there is not a moment for the most essential, for that for which we live. Daily we partake of food, and without it regard the day miserable. But our spirit also receives nourishment from thought, and without it the day is even criminal. Let us magnify our thoughts, and let us remember the basis of Yoga as bread and milk.
Agni Yoga, 357

Enlightenment will be endless. Learn by TEACHING OTHERS. The Call, 251

Of all creative energies, THOUGHT remains supreme. Agni Yoga, 19

Thought is Fire. Thought is the engendering of the creative vortex and explosion. Thought is Light and radiance. Thus must Fiery Thought be respected. Fiery World III, 600

Not by words but by thoughts is the world moved. Thus, each thought may help the cosmic energy. Infinity II, 350

The thought-will remains the only basis of the All-Existent, therefore the energy of thought must be so carefully investigated.
Fiery World II, 56

Even upon the simplest physical action one can notice the influence of thought.
Fiery World I, 205

That a situation is without solution is only imagined by those who would lean upon people instead of upon the power of thought. Agni Yoga, 122

Chiefly, learn to think in solitude. And realize responsibility of thought. Verily, thought levels the strongest walls. Doubt, irritation, and self-pity can be consciously ejected. Agni Yoga, 340

To isolate a clear thought, without incidental waverings, will be in itself a lofty discipline. In the Brotherhood attention is paid to such purification of thought. Brotherhood, 546

A pure thought ever ascends. At the feet of Christ it blossoms, radiant. The Call, 21

He who is blessed with TRUST needs no armor. Agni Yoga, 236

Fire is not dangerous to WINGS. The Call, 255

Across the deserts, seas and mountains, you transport yourselves in one breath. And there, face to face we meet. There is no space. Time exists not. The power of knowledge is manifested. It is easy to soar when thou hast wings. I shall say it is easy to those who feel their wings. . . . Soar with thy thoughts. Fly by affirmation. Fly by love. And thou wilt realize the joy of flying. And again the gulf of life will remain beneath thy feet. And a miracle of flaming colors will radiate near the splendor of the Southern Cross. All is attainable. The Call, 328

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